

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A communication device for communicating in video and audio with other terminal device, comprising:

mode setting means for setting one of a first operation mode for unassisted operation [[or]] by an external data processor and a second operation mode for operation under the control of [[an]] said external data processor;

an external connection interface for connecting with said external data processor;

communication means for exchanging information with said other terminal device;

control means that operates in accordance with an operation through operation means ~~and outputs video data to be displayed to video output means~~ of the communicating device in said first operation modes, and operates in accordance with control commands received from said external data processor through said external connection interface ~~and transfers video data to be displayed to said external data processor~~ in said second operation mode; and

check means that checks whether a task is being processed for communicating with said other terminal device in case of said second operation mode; and

inhibition means for inhibiting change ~~from said first operation mode to said second operation mode or change~~ from said second operation mode to said first operation mode, while the task is being processed ~~communicating with said other terminal device;~~

~~wherein in said second operation mode, the control commands are generated by an application program running in said external data processor.~~

Claim 2 (Original): A device according to claim 1, wherein said mode setting means automatically sets said first operation mode after power is supplied and sets said second operation mode in accordance with a control instruction from said external data processor.

Claim 3 (Original): A device according to claim 1, wherein said mode setting means sets said first operation mode in response to the connection state with said external data processor changing to a substantially disconnected state.

Claim 4 (Original): A device according to claim 1, wherein said control means operates also in accordance with a control signal from said external data processor in said first operation mode.

Claim 5 (Original): A device according to claim 1, further comprising:
a recording medium; and
recording management means for recording data to be recorded in said external data processor when said recording medium has its space area less than a predetermined amount, and recording, on said recording medium, management information indicating that said data is recorded in said external data processor.

Claim 6 (Original): A device according to claim 5, wherein said recording management means checks on the basis of said management information as to whether or not data to be reproduced exists in said recording medium, and reproduces said data when it exists in said

recording medium and requests said external data processor to transfer said data when it exists in said external data processor.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A control method of a communication device for communicating in video and audio with other terminal device, said communication device having a first operation mode in which said communication device operates on the basis of an operation through its own operation means and a second operation mode in which said communication device operates under the control of an external data processor, said method comprising:

an operation mode setting step;

a first operation step for operating said communication device in accordance with an operation through said operation means when said first operation mode is set in said operation mode setting step;

~~a display output step for outputting video data to be displayed to a video output device provided in said communication device;~~

a second operation step for operating said communication device in accordance with control commands from said external data processor when said second operation mode is set in said operation mode setting step;

~~a transfer step for transferring video data to be displayed to said external data processor;~~
and

a check step for checking whether a task is being processed for communicating with said other terminal device in case of second operation mode; and

inhibition step for inhibiting ~~change from said first operation mode to said second operation mode or change from said second operation mode to said first operation mode, while communicating with said other terminal device, the task is being processed~~
~~wherein in said second operation mode, the control commands are generated by an application program running in said external data processor.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ method according to claim 7, wherein said first operation mode is automatically set after power is supplied and said second operation mode is set in accordance with a control instruction from said external data processor in said operation mode setting step.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ method according to claim 7, wherein said first operation mode is set in response to the connection state with said external data processor changing to a substantially disconnected state in said operation mode setting step.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ method according to claim 7, wherein said communication device operates also in accordance with a control signal from said external data processor in said first operation mode.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ method according to claim 7, further comprising a recording management step for recording data to be recorded in said external data processor when a recording medium has its space area less than a predetermined amount, and

recording, on said recording medium, management information indicating that said data is recorded in said external data processor.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ method according to claim 7, further comprising a reproducing step for checking on the basis of said management information as to whether or not data to be reproduced exists in said recording medium, and reproducing said data when it exists in said recording medium and requesting said external data processor to transfer said data when it exists in said external data processor.

Claims 13-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A computer program product for communicating an image with other terminal device with a computer readable medium, comprising:

program code for setting a first operation mode or a second operation mode;

program code for connecting a connection interface with ~~the~~ an external data processor;
operation step;

program code for communicating with the external data processor connected via said connection interface; ~~and~~

program code for checking whether a task is being processed for communicating with said other terminal in case of second operation mode; and

~~program code for inhibiting change from said first operation mode to said second operation mode or change from said second operation mode to said first operation mode, while communicating with said other terminal device;~~

~~wherein in the second operation mode, the control of the external data processor is effected by a control command generated by an application program running in the external data processor the task is processed.~~

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (New): A communication device for communicating in video and audio with other terminal device, comprising:

mode setting unit for setting one of a first operation mode for unassisted operation by an external data processor and a second operation mode for operation under the control of said external data processor;

an external connection interface for connecting with said external data processor;

communication unit for exchanging information with said other terminal device;

control unit that operates in accordance with an operation through an operation unit of the communicating device in said first operation modes, and operates in accordance with control commands received from said external data processor through said external connection interface in said second operation mode;

check unit that checks whether a task is being processed for communicating with said other terminal device in case of said second operation mode; and

inhibition unit for inhibiting change from said second operation mode to said first operation mode, while the task is being processed.